

CHURCH OF GOD

Evangel



March 6, 1961

Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?



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Recently in Tucson, Arizona, at the Church of God where Reverend R. J. Johnson is pastoring, I reconsecrated and dedicated my life to the Lord. It is wonderful to be in fellowship with God and the Church, and it is my desire by the help of the Lord and His people to try to redeem some of the years that have been wasted.

I would like the entire Church of God membership and friends to forgive me of my past mistakes and remember me in prayer that I will be able to do God's will. I am thanking you in advance for our future fellowship together.

—J. Carl Hughes
c/o Arizona State Office
4542 East Garfield
Phoenix 8, Arizona

If anyone is planning to move to New York City, or has any friends or relatives there who are members of the Church of God or attend the church, please contact me so that I can get in touch with them. Our church is located at 615 - 51st Street, Brooklyn, New York.

—Rev. Vincent Grassano
4404 - 18th Avenue
Brooklyn, N. Y.

COVER

The Dyersburg, Tennessee, Church of God (see report on page 13).

CHURCH OF GOD *Evangel*

Official Voice of the Church of God

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible. 2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor. 4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins. 5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. 6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost. 7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people. 8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart. 9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. 10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. 11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement. 12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet. 13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years. 14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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Editorial

HOW TO KILL A SINNER

MANY CHRISTIANS carelessly kill their unsaved loved ones and friends. Of course they do not kill them physically with fatal blows, but they do so spiritually with their deadly actions and attitudes.

Let me point out immediately that no sinner can justify himself before Christ because of the attitudes or actions of some Christians. All men will be judged according to their own deeds and their own ways. No man will be spared his just punishment simply because some Christian discouraged him. Failure to serve Christ cannot be excused because there are hypocrites in the church, or because there are inconsistent Christians, laden with shortcomings.

Now, with this understanding, let me go on to say that there are many unsaved persons who will never come to Christ because their confidence has been shaken by some Christian friend. The Christian life has been made repulsive rather than attractive to them. They are dead to the entreaties of other Christians; they have lost simple confidence; they are so spiritually dead that they may never come to Christ. Careless Christians have done this needless killing.

A consistent life will have great influence on a sinner's decision for Christ; contrariwise, a careless Christian life will hinder or prohibit his conversion.

1. Criticism of the Church

There are several ways we may destroy a sinner's personal confidence in God and the church and thereby kill him. Probably the greatest hindrance of all is telling unsaved persons about the troubles in the church. A sinner does not have the presence of grace to help him account for difficulties in the church. While we may be able to see these shortcomings and take them in stride, knowing that the church has not reached perfection, an unsaved person will very likely be overthrown or driven back. Those who are free to talk about the shortcomings of the church with their sinner friends are doing them a grave injustice. How can you destroy their confidence in the church and still lead them into it? How can they see the church as a fortress and a stronghold against sin when you constantly point out to them everything about it with which you disagree?

Yet there are those who constantly criticize the church and hold it up for the disrespect of the unsaved. They complain about the pastor, or church

restrictions, or church obligations, or simply state that the church is backslidden and "not what it used to be." Some reckless church members are quick to air out all the church difficulties to their children, friends, and neighbors. So surely as you tell your children and your sinner friends all the troubles of the church, so surely will you discourage their ever becoming any part of it.

2. Criticism of other Christians

Another way to prohibit sinners from coming to Christ is to kill their confidence in other Christians. I would not be surprised if petty jealousy among Christians has not discouraged more sinners from coming to Christ than has any other single reason. If you are individually-minded enough to have differences with your brother, and then are not big enough to make allowances for those differences, you should by all means be wise enough not to discuss those differences with your unsaved children and friends. It may be that the one you tear down with your words is the very one who would have enough influence to lead the sinner to Christ. When you destroy a Christian's influence then you have destroyed a sinner's opportunity for salvation.

You do a four-sided injury when you are quick to criticize other Christians. First of all, you hurt the one you criticize. Next, you hurt the one to whom you voice your criticism. Third, you hurt yourself and make yourself into a little person. Finally, you hurt the whole cause of Christ.

3. Harshness Instead of Love

Careless Christians kill sinners when they treat them with harshness instead of love. Love and kindness will win souls to Christ far more quickly than any other attitude we may have toward them. While our attitude must be constantly against sin, it is not to be against the sinner. Making harsh and vile references to them and about them is one of the easiest ways to discourage them from making a start for Christ.

Have you ever noticed that Christ always treated the unconverted with kindness and gentleness? He was harsh toward hypocrites in the church, but toward the unsaved ones on the outside He showed the greatest of concern. Hypocrites deserve our censure and loathing, but those who are merely unconverted can

SPRINGTIME

By C. JERRY GOFF

SPRINGTIME—A time when the dead of winter comes alive to the warmth of spring; that season of the year when the smell of roses and cherry blossoms fills the air. Love comes forth in all its array and glory, drawing young hearts together, tilling the soil of courtship, bringing forth branches of matrimony for a new family tree.

Springtime—time to wash the windows, rake the yards, and clean out those closets; it's spring-cleaning time. Beat the rugs and air the mattresses. Drag out the mess that's collected in the garage. Wash and wax the car, if you've got that much "get up and go"; but show some life, it's *springtime*.

Springtime—time to plant a few flowers and get some good, rich mother earth under your fingernails. Then a few minutes of catch with the ball and glove in the back yard with the kids will lengthen the muscles and will do wonders to strengthen the roots and stability of the family tree.

Springtime—a time of Christian rejoicing. "Hosanna to the King! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." It is the season of the year when we remember His triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Oh, if only they could have truly known that this was the King! The dark cloud of crucifixion hovers over Calvary and for a moment dims the beauty of

the season, but the brilliance of the Easter morn—the *springtime of eternity*—brings hope of a new life through our risen Lord. Easter is born; now all men can know the glories of eternal salvation. It is the season of love, eternal love that comes from God to man; proven love, love that can be experienced if we will accept the Christ of the Easter season. Let the grass be greener and the flowers sweeter because we know personally the maker of them all.

May Easter be more than a day—let it be a life where we can walk in the spring of Christianity with the Rose of Sharon and the Lily of the Valley constantly in bloom in our hearts.

be led to Christ by a genuine display of Christian love.

4. *Magnifying Christian Hardships*

Some Christians seem to enjoy magnifying the hardships of a Christian life. They seem to forget that an unsaved person is not looking for new and greater burdens, but for something that will give him peace of heart in a day of trouble. Very frankly, the Christian life is not nearly so hard as some pretend it to be. Jesus did not lie when He said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

By comparison with the hardness of a sinful life, the Christian way is a constant delight. Why then should we spend any time talking about our burdens and tribulations? A sinner seeking relief from the trouble that he already bears will not likely be attracted to something that will only bring him added trouble and heaviness of heart.

Our testimonies should be expressions of delight, of comfort, of joy. A testimony meeting is not a forum for our woes—most of these are illusory in the first place. They simply do not exist. Even if living for Christ should bring us the scorn of the world and black days of sorrow, even that is better than living a life of sin. We do Christ a great injustice when we deny His words and make His way of life hardship and trouble.

5. *Worldly Offenses*

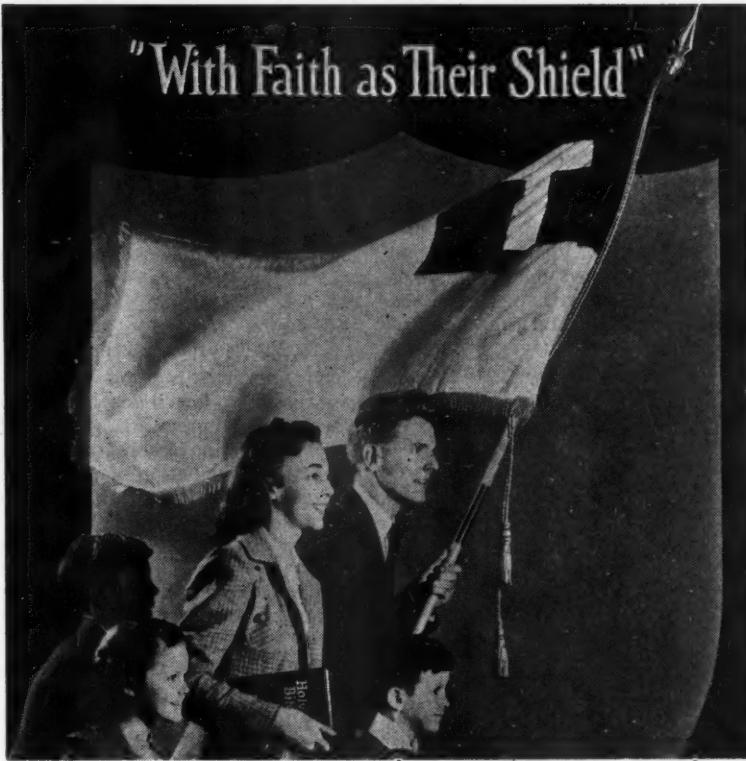
Other sinners are killed when worldly Christians

offend their weak and tender consciences. Every time an unsaved person sees a worldly church member doing things that even he would not do, he is naturally driven back from beginning the Christian life. He feels that he has no need of it if that is all there is to it. When the unconverted observe worldly attitudes, questionable practices, and hear doubtful conversation, they will either lose confidence in the one whom they observe, or they will conclude that the Christian life is not what it is claimed to be. A sinner is not likely to make the step toward Christ when he looks no worse than his "Christian" friend, acts no worse, sounds no worse, feels no worse and is no worse.

Unwittingly, unwisely and irresponsibly, parents frequently kill their sinner children, and friends kill their sinner neighbors by their careless and inconsistent attitudes. No evangelist, however anointed he may be, can overcome by his preaching the great damage that is being done by the loose talk and the loose living of those who should know to do better. We all need to have so great a passion for the lost that we will feel a spiritual rebuke in our hearts when we begin to say or do anything that will hinder the lost from coming to Christ.

While unsaved persons cannot justify their sinful condition by blaming Christians, I wonder if those Christians will not themselves also suffer great loss.

Charles W. Cason



Some Experiences of an Evangelist's Wife

By Mrs. R. N. Cowart

I WAS THE daughter of a south Mississippi sawmill man and married his woods foreman. He was not a preacher when we married but soon became active in church work as Sunday School superintendent and leader of prayer meetings. My experiences with him have been many and varied. Often the young people would go with us on Sunday afternoons to sing for shut-ins. One of these shut-ins was a young man who had tuberculosis. One day at the noon hour my husband went by Willie's house to read to him and discovered that he had left his Bible at home so he quoted the Twenty-third Psalm. Willie said, "Wait a minute. I have heard that somewhere. Oh yes, my Sunday School teacher used to try to get us to memorize it. I didn't think much of it then, but it sounds good now." When afflictions come, the Word of God is precious. My husband often referred to this as the "Now time."

Several years after Willie's death, his sister, Mary, had the same disease. One night we went to service at her home and found a big crowd gathered. We were pleased to see so many attending the service. When he came for his next appointment, some folks told my husband that they had had a frolic after we had left, which accounted for so many being there. They begged him not to go back. He said, "They didn't dance while I was there, so I am going back."

One hot summer day there was an all-day meeting at the church. After lunch when the time came for the afternoon meeting to begin, the preacher asked my husband to invite the young people in. When he did, a young woman in the crowd called out, "Rufe, do you want us to come into that hot house just for a little bit of religion?" The pastor tried to get my husband to preach, but he told him that he wanted to show the world that people could live right with-

out being preachers.

In June, 1919, my husband received his call to preach. Three years later we went to San Francisco where he attended Glad Tidings Bible School.

The children and I went with my husband to most of his appointments. I played a folding organ and he played a guitar. We generally went to out-of-the-way places. He preached in school houses, homes, churches, and under trees and brush arbors. Sometimes we were given the only bed on the place and the family would sleep on pallets. When the mosquitoes were bad, I would sleep fanning the mosquitoes off the children. One night my husband and son slept on the floor because of bedbugs. If the people got up before day, we did, too.

Some men told of a place where they said the men would chew tobacco in church. My husband had a great desire to go to that place and wrote asking for permission to

hold services in that church, but received no reply. He wrote again telling them that he had songbooks, organ, and lights, and all that they would have to do was sit and listen. A reply came right back to come ahead; everything was O.K.

A few days after we began a meeting at another place, my baby took the sore eyes. One day as one of the larger boys of the home where we were staying passed through the house, I heard him say that he believed he was taking the sore eyes. There was a large family of children in this home and I could not bear to think of their having sore eyes, so I knelt by my bed and told the Lord that if He would not let any of those children have the sore eyes, I would bear the whole suffering for them all. We went home the next day and I suffered with a bad case of sore eyes, but the big family of children did not take them.

While I was sewing one day, my little three-year-old boy was playing in the machine drawer. He found a machine needle which had been broken at the eye, leaving it an inch and three-quarters long. I saw him with the needle and when I looked back, he was pointing down his throat. He had swallowed the needle. I tried to get him to vomit but failed. Feeling uneasy, I went to my mother's for a while. When my husband came from work he took the boy upon his knee and asked him why he had swallowed the needle. He replied, "Make me grow big." His father explained that the needle might kill him and then they would have to put him in a box. He said, "Let's pay." He was soon off his knees saying, "Jesus ain't going to let the needle hurt me," as he clapped his hands. He passed the needle the next day.

One day at church a woman asked for prayer that she might be rid of the snuff habit. After supper that night her husband passed her the snuff box after he had taken some. As her custom was, she took some and it made her sick as though she had never taken any before. She got rid of that and never used any more.

Fruitdale was settled mostly by

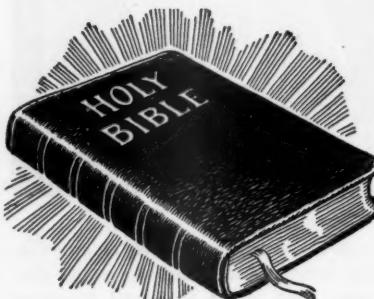
truck farmers. We had not been living there long when a man asked us why we did not go to Mr. Buyers' house to see his wife who was paralyzed. The next Sunday a small crowd from the church went with us to see Mrs. Buyers. We sang a few songs and talked some. During the conversation, my husband mentioned how the different places in town advertise their business. If it is a barbershop, you will see a striped pole, etc. Likewise, we are advertising Jesus, the Saviour from sin and the healer of the body. Mrs. Buyers requested that we pray for the healing of her body. The very next day a letter came in the mail from Mr. Buyers saying that he was the most surprised man in the world. His wife had called them early in the morning to come see how she

vited to the home of the woman who was at the altar the first day. We heard that she had had an attack of epilepsy, and that the attack would last for a day and a half, after which she would have to stay in bed for a week. When we went to her room, she was lying on her bed and looked as if she were dying. After prayer my husband told her to get up in Jesus' name. She got up unaided and walked the floor praising God. She did not miss any of the services and wrote to us for years that she had never had another attack.

Our next meeting was in a vacant house a few miles from this place. The congregation was small and the meeting seemed a failure. When the benediction was said, an old woman from the back came up the aisle shaking hands with everyone. My husband asked me to play something. I began to play "Nearer, My God, to Thee," a young woman holding her baby fell over with a fit. Prayer was offered for her and she arose, took her baby, and walked home rejoicing.

One of these places where God worked so wonderfully saving souls and delivering these two women was where we spent one night without any sheets or pillow cases on the bed. I just spread some of our clothes across the pillows and we did not undress. At another home in the other place, the men did not come home for their dinner and the young wife did not cook any dinner. She made coffee for the neighbors who came in, parching it in a frying pan with the black smoke flying out the window. We got hungry, so we walked around the place and found some blackberries and an old bucket. We picked the berries, took them to the house, and she cooked them in a big iron pot on the top of the stove, dropped in some dumplings, and we had a good pie for supper.

A young preacher asked my husband how I liked the work. He told him that it just suited me. It was just suiting me for there were souls that needed help. By being a friend to them, I might help them become acquainted with the Friend who sticketh closer than a brother.



could move her limbs. In a few days she was walking all about.

My youngest boy had a large blue lump on his lower lip that had been there for some time. One day the county nurse came by to see me. She asked me to take him to a doctor but not to let the doctor do anything to it. We had special prayer for him one night, and when we had finished praying, the lump had burst and was running aropy substance. The place got well and never came back again.

One summer we were at an old sawmill town. We had meetings at night in the tabernacle and in the afternoons in homes. At the close of the first afternoon meeting, my husband improvised an altar by using a few dilapidated chairs and a box; four came for prayer.

The next afternoon we were in-

A Church That Cares, Shares and Dares

By Floyd D. Carey, Jr.

Sunday School and Youth Director of Louisiana

RELIGIOUS GROUPS in all generations have dramatically avowed, after surveying the appalling spiritual state of man and the turbulent world crises, that theirs were the most momentous and demanding days of all times. Notwithstanding past patterns and opinions, our church finds herself forming the same conclusion today. But, in view of the "complete command" of Christ to the church, what other alternative is offered?

The church is the bride of Christ, and as such, must be driven by the same urgency that inspired Christ to remark, "I must be about my Father's business," "I must needs go through Samaria" and "Let us go over to the other side." In commemorating our seventy-fifth year of continued advancement, it is needful to re-examine established standards and divine decrees in order to insure denominational survival. In a confused and twisted time like this, after studying the commission of Christ, the ingredients for survival call for a church that *cares, shares and dares*.

Cares

In a changing world the Church must produce changeless Christians who realize that the church is an organism, not an organization, in whose veins flow the graces of Christ-likeness—sweetness of spirit, sacrificial service and singleness of purpose. To accomplish this, the church must take Christ to the people.

The church cannot afford to "gambol" and hope that sinners will "happen" to come in. Jesus did not physically separate Himself from sinful men and women. They said of Him, "He eats and drinks with publicans and sinners." Jesus knew where the needy could be found, and He went to them. We must take the church to the

people. "Ye are the light of the world"—"Ye are the salt of the earth." This urgency of *Christian Care* is essential for denominational survival.

"Eternal vigilance is the price of victory." "Go out, and compel them to come in!" The cry and concern of the church in fulfilling her assignment must be anchored in mindfulness of fallen man and the task of spreading the truth. This is the true formula for membership growth and denominational extension.

Shares

President Kennedy made this stern statement in his inaugural address, "Do not ask what America can do for you. Ask what you can do for America." As the moon is bound by gravitation to the earth, so is the church bound to the world and destined to travel with it until God separates them. "I pray not that thou wouldest take them out of the world." We are bound to this world until Christ reappears, to share with it the joy of redemption, the story of salvation and the promise of eternal life. Sharing the fruits of holiness is an obligation of the church.

However, we are living in a time when Christians seem to take liberties with God. They picture Him as a business partner or as an everyday "old buddy," and by so doing seem to fancy themselves rating exemptions and special favors. I realize that Christ has said, "Lo! I am with you" and "My grace is sufficient"; yet! these promises bind rather than exempt from holy labor and spiritual sharing. There is adventure found in sharing, and life is filled with richer flavors when sharing is practiced. This virtue is a vital agent in the growth and glow of the church.

Dares

As Martin Luther drew near the

door which was about to admit him into the presence of his judges at the Diet of Worms, he met a valiant knight, George of Freundsberg. As Luther passed, the knight tapped him on the shoulder and said: "Poor monk, poor monk! thou art now going to make a nobler stand than I or any other captains have ever made in the bloodiest of our battles. But if thy cause is just, and thou art sure of it, go forward in God's name, and fear nothing—God will not forsake thee."

The cause of the church is just and right; this we know. Why should we then doubt that God will be with us. Christ said, "Upon this rock I will build my church." The Church has been founded, her cause has been proclaimed and her task unalterably set forth. Can we do less than *dare* in performing our duty?

In Sir J. M. Barrie's play, *Dear Brustus*, one of the characters say: "Three things come not back—the spoken word, the past life, and the neglected opportunity." The church has the opportunity, "The fields are white unto harvest." With courage bold we daringly meet and overpower our foe. The servants of the Lord should be as bold for their Master as are the servants of the devil.

We are living in a society that "makes way for the man who boldly pushes past us." Can we remain silent while other voices clamour and men rush past us? No! We must *dare*, and step-out with courage and boldness for Christ and His church. "Courage is the armour of the soul which keeps us from conquest, pillage and slavery."

Ever onward to the fight—A church that cares; every upward to the light—A church that shares; ever true to God and right—A church that dares. Up!—and On!



BARBARA MOORE PAGE

Calling All

A CHORUS WHICH we occasionally sing in our church begins like this: "Stop, and let me tell you, what the good Lord's done for me." Now, that is what I would like to say to you teen-age girls, and I hope you can find a few minutes to let me tell you some of the things that the Lord has done for me—because I want you to profit by my experiences.

One of the most important things to the young girl just entering womanhood is her personal appearance. And because it is the accepted thing by the world today to wear make-up, it is in many cases difficult for the holiness girl to understand why she must not do that. Merely saying, "The church does not believe in it" does not always suffice. Teen-agers must have a reason. I know, because I can remember my own teen-age days, and I remember how I looked forward to the day when my parents (who were not Church of God at that time) would allow me to wear lipstick. That was the very ultimate goal in my life! Well, that day finally came when I was allowed to wear lipstick, and I conformed to the worldly crowd. I looked like them and I acted like them; life was easy. There was nothing to challenge me. But then came the day when, at sixteen years of age, I committed myself to the Lord, and He filled me with

His Spirit. Up until that time I had been a starched-and-ironed church member, but the Lord has a wonderful way of taking the starch out of people, doesn't He? Part of the starch He took away from me was the lipstick. I knew I would have to give it up, but do you know something? it wasn't hard at all. And the reason it was not hard was that God put something important inside me that made that lipstick insignificant! Of course, the next day at school (I was a senior in high school at that time) I was told I looked like a ghost and to please go put on some make-up. But, I just laughed and felt the Spirit in my soul and refused to be bothered.

Now then, girls, I want to tell you a secret. I captured my husband (please don't tell him this; he thinks he captured me) because I didn't wear make-up. No fooling! In fact, I was the only girl employed at the firm who didn't wear make-up, and out of all the employees he noticed *me!* Another important item: Although my husband was Baptist when we began dating, after attending the Church of God with me, he was saved (really saved), sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and joined the Church of God *before* we were married. May I insert a little something else (just for good measure). We both prayed to know the Lord's will before our marriage. We were certain that it was God's perfect

will before we made the all-important decision to marry. Please take my advice: when the time comes for you to march down to the marriage altar make certain that it is God's will. That way, you won't go wrong!

IT MIGHT BE a good idea next to remind you to keep in mind the little adage about "swallowing the bitter with the sweet." I'm sure you realize that Christians will suffer persecutions and tribulations. How else could we prove ourselves? Let me share with you a personal experience that helps to illustrate this: I was enrolled in business college in East Texas. The President of the school summoned me to her office one day near the end of my term and informed me emphatically that young ladies who didn't wear make-up just couldn't expect to get a good job in an office. She questioned me as to why I wore no make-up, but she couldn't seem to understand that it was because of my religious belief. Apparently, to her way of thinking, no religious belief could possibly include a ban on make-up. I continued my schooling and steadfastly refused to wear make-up. Upon receiving my diploma from the business college, I was sent to a near-by town to apply for a job. The day I applied there were two openings and approximately eight to ten other young ladies there to apply for them. (I

All Teen-age Girls

was the only one among the group who did not wear make-up.) One of the jobs was secretary to the Employment Manager, and the other was a stenographic position in the Sales Department. Of course, the secretarial job was a higher paid position than the stenographic job. When all the tests were completed and the applications turned in, I was chosen from among that group of girls to have the job of secretary to the Employment Manager. I knew without a doubt that my heavenly Father had worked that out for me. So you see, your world doesn't come to an end just because you aren't allowed to wear make-up. Christ can make your life begin in earnest when you follow in His footsteps.

I have found during my lifetime, as you will find in yours, that God expects us to stand staunchly for our beliefs regardless of what ridicule may be heaped upon us for these beliefs. I can tell you this: never has God failed to help me when I have been persecuted or ridiculed for my religious belief; never has He failed to bless me, or repay me, or reward me for standing firmly on the solid rock of my belief. There was once a young girl who worked in an office where I had just been employed. I had only worked there a short while when she said to me, "I just don't understand why you people don't wear lipstick and nail polish." Before I

could answer, she interrupted flippantly, "Do you believe in polishing your toenails?" Well, I must confess that stirred up what I prefer to call my righteous indignation, but instead of losing my temper I looked her straight in the eye and said, "Now that was a silly question, wasn't it?" She looked rather sheepish and said, "Yes, it was." That girl and I are very good friends, and have been from that time.

As I mentioned earlier, I want you to profit by my experiences. I have told you about my own experiences because I know more about mine than those of anyone else. But I am not alone in experiences of this type, and others will also assure you anyone who is God's child can come out victorious in spite of adverse conditions. All it takes is an infilling of God's Holy Spirit, and a determination to make it through by God's grace—and, believe me, God doesn't fail to supply the grace! Why don't you determine, right now, that you are going to be true to God and to His Church; that you are going to remain steadfast in the face of temptation (and remember, being tempted is not sin—it is only when you yield to temptation that it becomes sin); and that whatever adverse circumstances come, your faith will be in Christ all the way. Take my word for it: you won't be sorry!





BARBARA MOORE PAGE

Calling All '

A CHORUS WHICH we occasionally sing in our church begins like this: "Stop, and let me tell you, what the good Lord's done for me." Now, that is what I would like to say to you teen-age girls, and I hope you can find a few minutes to let me tell you some of the things that the Lord has done for me—because I want you to profit by my experiences.

One of the most important things to the young girl just entering womanhood is her personal appearance. And because it is the accepted thing by the world today to wear make-up, it is in many cases difficult for the holiness girl to understand why she must not do that. Merely saying, "The church does not believe in it" does not always suffice. Teen-agers must have a reason. I know, because I can remember my own teen-age days, and I remember how I looked forward to the day when my parents (who were not Church of God at that time) would allow me to wear lipstick. That was the very ultimate goal in my life! Well, that day finally came when I was allowed to wear lipstick, and I conformed to the worldly crowd. I looked like them and I acted like them; life was easy. There was nothing to challenge me. But then came the day when, at sixteen years of age, I committed myself to the Lord, and He filled me with

His Spirit. Up until that time I had been a starched-and-ironed church member, but the Lord has a wonderful way of taking the starch out of people, doesn't He? Part of the starch He took away from me was the lipstick. I knew I would have to give it up, but do you know something? It wasn't hard at all. And the reason it was not hard was that God put something important inside me that made that lipstick insignificant! Of course, the next day at school (I was a senior in high school at that time) I was told I looked like a ghost and to please go put on some make-up. But, I just laughed and felt the Spirit in my soul and refused to be bothered.

Now then, girls, I want to tell you a secret. I captured my husband (please don't tell him this; he thinks he captured me) because I didn't wear make-up. No fooling! In fact, I was the only girl employed at the firm who didn't wear make-up, and out of all the employees he noticed *me*! Another important item: Although my husband was Baptist when we began dating, after attending the Church of God with me, he was saved (really saved), sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost and joined the Church of God *before* we were married. May I insert a little something else (just for good measure). We both prayed to know the Lord's will before our marriage. We were certain that it was God's perfect

will before we made the all-important decision to marry. Please take my advice: when the time comes for you to march down to the marriage altar make certain that it is God's will. That way, you won't go wrong!

IT MIGHT BE a good idea next to remind you to keep in mind the little adage about "swallowing the bitter with the sweet." I'm sure you realize that Christians will suffer persecutions and tribulations. How else could we prove ourselves? Let me share with you a personal experience that helps to illustrate this: I was enrolled in business college in East Texas. The President of the school summoned me to her office one day near the end of my term and informed me emphatically that young ladies who didn't wear make-up just couldn't expect to get a good job in an office. She questioned me as to why I wore no make-up, but she couldn't seem to understand that it was because of my religious belief. Apparently, to her way of thinking, no religious belief could possibly include a ban on make-up. I continued my schooling and steadfastly refused to wear make-up. Upon receiving my diploma from the business college, I was sent to a near-by town to apply for a job. The day I applied there were two openings and approximately eight to ten other young ladies there to apply for them. (I

All Teen-age Girls

was the only one among the group who did not wear make-up.) One of the jobs was secretary to the Employment Manager, and the other was a stenographic position in the Sales Department. Of course, the secretarial job was a higher paid position than the stenographic job. When all the tests were completed and the applications turned in, I was chosen from among that group of girls to have the job of secretary to the Employment Manager. I knew without a doubt that my heavenly Father had worked that out for me. So you see, your world doesn't come to an end just because you aren't allowed to wear make-up. Christ can make your life begin in earnest when you follow in His footsteps.

I have found during my lifetime, as you will find in yours, that God expects us to stand staunchly for our beliefs regardless of what ridicule may be heaped upon us for these beliefs. I can tell you this: never has God failed to help me when I have been persecuted or ridiculed for my religious belief; never has He failed to bless me, or repay me, or reward me for standing firmly on the solid rock of my belief. There was once a young girl who worked in an office where I had just been employed. I had only worked there a short while when she said to me, "I just don't understand why you people don't wear lipstick and nail polish." Before I

could answer, she interrupted flipantly, "Do you believe in polishing your toenails?" Well, I must confess that stirred up what I prefer to call my righteous indignation, but instead of losing my temper I looked her straight in the eye and said, "Now that was a silly question, wasn't it?" She looked rather sheepish and said, "Yes, it was." That girl and I are very good friends, and have been from that time.

As I mentioned earlier, I want you to profit by my experiences. I have told you about my own experiences because I know more about mine than those of anyone else. But I am not alone in experiences of this type, and others will also assure you anyone who is God's child can come out victorious in spite of adverse conditions. All it takes is an infilling of God's Holy Spirit, and a determination to make it through by God's grace—and, believe me, God doesn't fail to supply the grace! Why don't you determine, right now, that you are going to be true to God and to His Church; that you are going to remain steadfast in the face of temptation (and remember, being tempted is not sin—it is only when you yield to temptation that it becomes sin); and that whatever adverse circumstances come, your faith will be in Christ all the way. Take my word for it: you won't be sorry!



Man and missions

Church of God Missions Department
L. H. Aultman, Executive Missions Secretary

The Gospel on Paper

Colombo, Ceylon. Christians in this city have organized a tract club through which they cooperate in an aggressive program of Christian literature distribution. Since an estimated 65 per cent of the Ceylonese are literate, the tract club has wide opportunities. A recently formed committee will take the initiative in publishing and distributing gospel literature in the vernacular languages of Ceylon. (MNS)

India. The serial publication of the gospel in Indian newspapers continued during the past year. Mark has been published in Hindi, Bengali, Oriya, Gujarati, Telugu and Kannada; John in Urdu, Marathi and Sinhalese; and Luke in Tamil. The response to this effort at newspaper evangelism has been very encouraging. The Calcutta Auxiliary reports 138 inquiries, and Bombay well over 200. Thousands are now taking Bible correspondence courses. (Bible Society Record)

Sudan (East Africa). In the southern province of Equatoria a serious blow to missionaries' work has come in the form of a government order requiring Christian missionaries to close their bookshops. It is also reported that local chiefs have been ordered to choose between Christianity or Islam. It is well known that those who choose Islam will be in a favored position. (MNS)

Tucuman, Argentina. Evangelical university students from Bahia Blanca sold Bibles in the vestibule of the theatre while the film "The Ten Commandments" was being shown. During the five weeks of the showing, the exhibition and sale enabled the students to distribute 74 copies of the Bible. (MNS)

Latin America. The joint labors of four Bible Societies last year resulted in a total circulation of 4,750,000 volumes in Latin America, of which the American Bible Society provided subsidies for about 70 per cent. This figure accounts for more than half of the Society's total circulation abroad. (Bible Society Record)

Quemoy. Last year the 2,000 officers and men stationed on Free China's fortress island of Quemoy received a special consignment of New Testaments in honor of Madam Chiang Kai-shek's birthday. The Testaments were presented on her behalf by Pocket Testament League representative, Andrew Loo. (MNS)

Indonesia. The Rev. Harry Post (Christian and Missionary Alliance) reports that in three years the enrollment in their correspondence course has increased to 9,000 in Java and to about 15,000 for the whole of Indonesia. Those enrolled are from Christian, Hindu, Moslem, Roman Catholic and Buddhist backgrounds. (MNS)

Spain. After the police raided the evangelical book supply and confiscated 4,380 books and 67,000 booklets, Spanish Protestants endeavored to get approval from the Spanish censorship authorities for evangelical books to be printed in Spain. Hopes for such approval were dashed last week by the Censor's denial of the petition.

The situation of non-Catholics in Spain concerning their own literature is desperate because of Customs' tight control of religious literature imported from abroad and the Censor's control of material printed in the country.

Many parcels of books from Argentina addressed to persons in Spain have been turned back with the note "no admittance." Most of the books were Bible commentaries and Christian apologetics of non-sectarian distinction, but they lacked the "imprimatur" of Roman Catholic bishops in America, so they were refused. (MNS)

Malaya. The Fellowship of Evangelical Students of Malaya has decided to start a publication program by producing two pamphlets dealing with practical problems: "The Christian Student in a Buddhist Home" and "The Christian Student and His Church." The Fellowship has also undertaken the responsibility for producing a Christian student magazine in English for evangelical groups in the countries of eastern Asia. It is to be an international magazine with most of the articles being produced by Asian authors from the countries represented. (MNS)

Manila. In an effort to fill the serious gap that exists in S. E. Asia for talented national writers, O.M.F. Publishers (Christian Witness Press) have launched the Christian Writers Course. The ten basic lessons by correspondence have been prepared within the country with a view to relating standard journalistic techniques to the needs of the Philippine scene. The initial response has been most encouraging. (FENS)

Y. W. E. A.

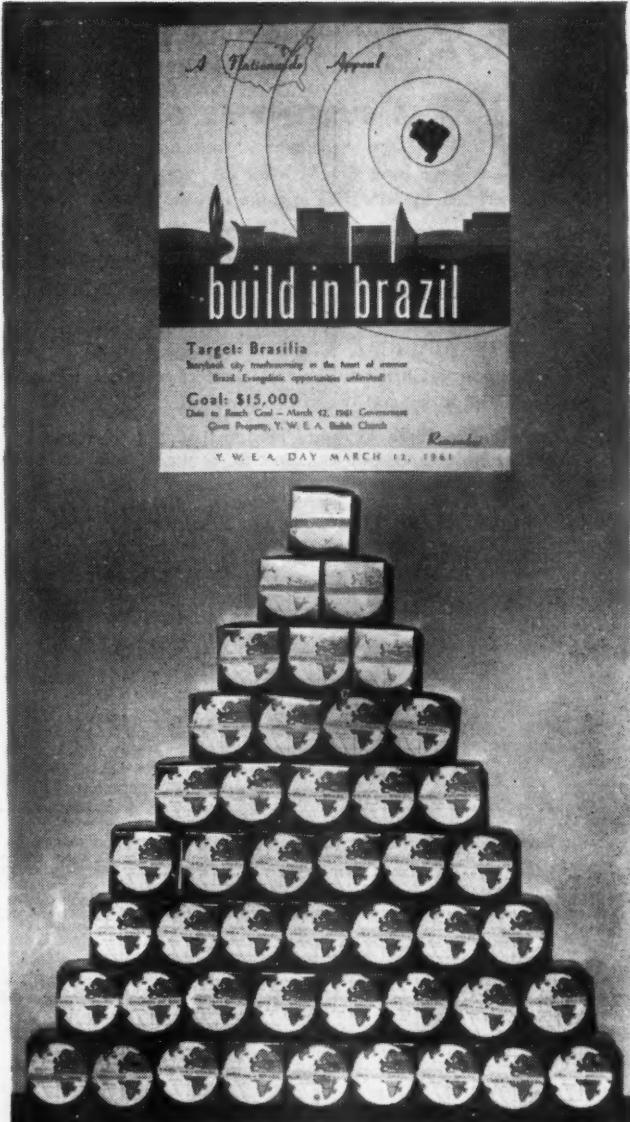
To Build Church in New Capital City—
Brasilia, Brazil

Across the nation come reports that the young people of the Church of God are responding to the challenging project "Build a Church in Brasilia, Brazil."

Ten thousand banks are in busy hands, we hope! Have you filled your bank? Y.W.E.A. Day is March 12, and our goal is \$15,000.

Let us do our share in this all-important youth mission project!

—Cecil Knight
NATIONAL DIRECTOR



BANKS BRING IN CAPITAL

Y.W.E.A. PROJECT IN THE VOLUNTEER STATE

Typical of the enthusiasm for the Brasilia, Brazil, project that prevails over the State of Tennessee is the spirit of Delores Carter, an 8-year-old from our newest church, Murfreesboro. She has filled her bank once already, getting over \$5, and her dad informs me that she already has equaled this amount again. Praise the Lord for youthful zeal!

A letter from Pastor Brady Dennis of the Eighth Avenue (Knoxville) Church of God states that he has distributed 50 Y.W.E.A. banks among his congregation. Furthermore, his young people are selling 15 cases of Y.P.E. candy, all profits going to the Y.W.E.A. project.

Other churches are working diligently, all with a spirit of sacrifice, for the cause of missions. North Cleveland has distributed 25 Y.W.E.A. banks, and South Cleveland has promised at least \$50. Juel Sealey, youthful Oak Ridge pastor, told me in a recent conversation that he was sure of \$100 and perhaps more.

For these and other similar reports, I praise the Lord. With His continued blessing Tennessee will surely surpass her portion of the National Y.W.E.A. goal.—Leonard S. Townley, State Sunday School and Youth Director.

All monies raised for Y.W.E.A. "Build in Brazil" project should be sent to: your state office or the Church of God Missions Department 1080 Montgomery Avenue Cleveland, Tennessee

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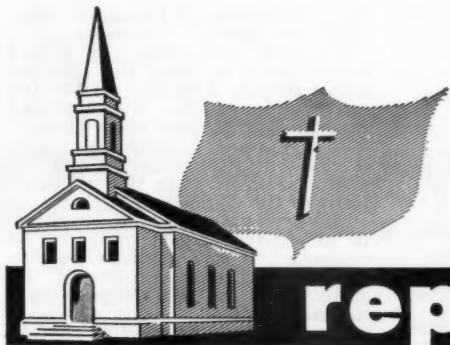
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reports

Unusual But Successful Missions Program

WINTER HAVEN, Fla.—The West Winter Haven Church of God recently held an outstanding foreign missions program. On December 4, people began to pack the church for this great service which had been carefully planned. The presence of the Lord was felt beginning with the opening song. Rev. Lovell R. Cary and his family were featured in a "This Is Your Life" program. This was the first time that a missions service has ever been conducted in such a manner, but God certainly did put His approval on the entire service.

Several weeks ago Rev. A. J. Duncan, pastor, and the members of the church felt moved by the Spirit of God to do something special for foreign missions. As they prayed and discussed the matter, they felt led to do something special for the Cary family and the work in the Philippine Islands. Brother and Sister Cary are the founders, builders and first pastor of the West Winter Haven Church of God.

It was announced several days ahead that on Sunday, December 4, there would be a special missions service in honor of the Carys. Although they were 12,000 miles away, the program was entirely about them and their work. Their parents and a few close friends told many interesting things about their lives. God moved in the service in a mighty way. The people cried and prayed; the missions spirit really gripped the whole congregation. The service was climaxed with a love offering which amounted to \$1,494.63.

The church is blessed with a membership of 118, having come from 64 members in 2½ years. The Sunday School has increased greatly, also, having come from 73 to 185. God always blesses a missions-minded church whether large or small.

We deeply appreciate the leadership and vision of our pastor and his wife, Brother and Sister Duncan. —Daniel E. Winters, treasurer

Church Breaks Record Before Set Time

PORTLAND, Ore.—The Powell Boulevard Church of God wishes to report that we set our Sunday School attendance goal at 150 by Christmas and 200 by Easter. But on November 27 we broke our record with 170 which gave us an average of 131 for the month of November. We are praising God for this. We hope to reach 200 before Easter and will if everyone keeps working as they have in the past.

Pray for us as we move on for God.

—Reporter

Double Award-Winner Church

DYERSBURG, Tenn.—We wish to sound a note of praise for how the Lord has blessed our church. In 1958 we received the bronze plaque for the Sunday School of the year. From that, our pastor, Rev. H. M. Hunt, along with the Sunday School superintendent, J. A. Gibson; assistant superintendent, James Hart; the Sunday School committee, Bobby Copeland, Tom Seratt, Edward Johnson and Dale Alford; and the church became enthusiastic and erected the beautiful Sunday School plant you see on the cover of this *Evangel*. The church consists of an auditorium, 8 classrooms, rest rooms and a modern nursery with speaking system; the lower floor has a large children's church auditorium, and an L.W.W.B. kitchen and dining hall.

The young people have recently purchased a new organ for the church.

In 1960 our Y.P.E. was awarded the bronze plaque of the year. We are very thankful our Sunday School and Y.P.E. both have silver-shield ratings. In the past 3 years our church has had a steady growth in attendance, membership and finance. For all this we thank the Lord. He has done great things for us here in Dyersburg.

Wisconsin-Minnesota Soul-Winner's Conference

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — On a frigid January 27, 1961, Church of God ministers and laity from these two States gathered in the beautiful auditorium of the Minneapolis church for a Soul-Winner's Conference. The conference was the beginning of our "Every Soul Win a Soul" campaign for this year. Our hearts were inspired and blessed by the messages, testimonies, and songs which were given during the two-day meeting.

The first night Rev. A. M. Phillips, General Secretary-Treasurer, delivered a very challenging message upon the subject, "God's Business." It was certainly a privilege to have Brother Phillips with us. His messages were God anointed and his admonition came from a heart that was concerned for the lost.

Saturday morning, January 28, Rev. Paul Stallings, Overseer of Missouri, chose as his topic, "And He Brought Him to Jesus" from a text found in John 1:29-42. Brother Stallings gave sound, practical instructions on how to win souls. Saturday afternoon he talked to us concerning an "On to Other Cities" campaign which is bringing very good results in his state. His messages contributed greatly to the success of the conference.

During the Saturday afternoon session, reports were given concerning the progress being made in new fields. The Holy Spirit moved in an outstanding way during this service, and our ministers were greatly encouraged.

Saturday night Brother Phillips spoke to us regarding "The Church and Its Motivation." His message was outstanding and proved to be a real blessing to all who were in attendance.

Rev. T. W. Day, our state overseer, did a wonderful job of planning and moderating the conference. The manner in which he conducted each service contributed to the spirituality of the convention.

We wish to thank Brother Manuel Campbell, host pastor, and the good Church of God people in Minneapolis for their fine hospitality. All of these things blended together with the moving of God's Spirit to give us a Soul-Winner's Conference we will not forget in the near future.

—Jack H. Adams, reporter

The best practice is the practice of listening to God when we read or hear His Word.—THE CHRISTIAN PARENT, Glen Ellyn, Illinois.



Religion Today

Supreme Court Faces Religious Controversies

Of the 450 cases on the docket of the Supreme Court in the current session, 26 have some bearing on religion or religious freedom.

Items of religious significance include: the so-called "blue laws" prohibiting business and commercial activities on Sunday . . . the reading of the Bible in public schools . . . laws requiring the observance of religious holidays, such as Christmas and Easter, in public schools . . . distribution of information concerning contraceptives . . . and the case of a man in Maryland who has been denied the right to serve as a notary public because he is a declared atheist.

One of the most unusual questions relates to the Hutterites, a religious group which believes in communal living and common ownership of worldly possessions. Although the Montana courts have declared that this organization should be taxed as a corporation, the Hutterites have appealed on the ground that their possessions represent religious property.

Rev. B. E. Ellis Chosen Chairman of Committee by Christian Action Council

COLUMBIA, S. C.—Rev. B. E. Ellis, State Overseer of the Churches of God in South Carolina, was selected to serve as chairman of a special committee of denominational enlistment and as an ex officio member of the Executive Committee by the Christian Action Council at its recent annual meeting in Columbia.

Mr. Ellis also participated in the program by serving as a member of the important Nominating Committee and by giving a special report on "The Extent of Drug Addiction in South Carolina."

Rev. Bobby Ross, also of the Church of God, was present and was elected to serve on the Council's Board of Governors.

Representatives of 11 denominations gathered for this 27th annual session of South Carolina's only cooperative channel for interde-

nominational study and action. Supported by Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Church of God, Wesleyan Methodist and other evangelical groups, its growing program and effectiveness is centered on Christian citizenship and moral action.

Officers elected to lead the Christian Action Council in 1961 include the following influential church leaders: president, Dr. Neil Truesdell of Newberry (Presbyterian); first vice-president, Mrs. D. C. Bomar of Ridge Springs (Baptist); second vice-president, Rev. Bryan Crenshaw of Gaffney (Methodist); and secretary, Rev.

Neal Wyndham of Columbia (Disciples of Christ).

President Truesdell, the first Presbyterian to head the interdenominational Council, stated the importance of the organization's program and purpose when he said: "We are on the edge of a tremendous transformation in our nation and state. It is the responsibility of the Christian Action Council to try, under Divine guidance, to anticipate problems and to be organized to give strong Christian witness to the moral life of our state. It is for this purpose that we meet today."

Executive Director Howard G. McClain, an ordained Baptist minister who is now in his twelfth year as the executive leader of the interchurch body, said that the "spirit of cooperation, interest and support indicated at our annual meeting was at an exceptionally high level and many plans were made for effective study and action related to public affairs in South Carolina." He also stated that "1961 is anticipated, by all present, as a time of reaching a new and higher plateau of services for the churches of our state through the Christian Action Council."

"I, John F. Kennedy . . ."



WASHINGTON, D.C.—Chief Justice Earl Warren administers the oath of office to John F. Kennedy, as the nation's 35th President swears to uphold the Constitution and laws of the land. In his inaugural address the country's first Roman Catholic President made a fervent appeal for God's help in guiding America. He quoted from a

Bible verse, Romans 12:12, to make a point that America must be patient in the continuation of the cold war with Communism and in leading the free world toward a better life. The Biblical phrase quoted was "rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation."

—Religious News Service Photo

testimonies

God Heals Patient on Deathbed

WEST UNION, S. C.—In December, 1958, I became seriously ill. For 3 months I suffered deathly. I was sent to the hospital for a thorough examination. After making blood tests and X rays for 1 week, the doctors told my husband that I had cancer of the bone. They said I might live 6 months. They sent me to another hospital in which there is a cancer clinic. There, further examinations were made on my spine; but after the tests were made, the doctors said there was nothing they could do to effect a cure for me and that X-ray treatments would do no good. They told my husband that I had only a short while to live, so I turned to God for help knowing that if I got any help, it would have to come from Him.

My pastor and his wife came to see me often, as did others. Prayers were going up for me in many churches, but I didn't get any better. I became bedfast in February, 1959, and stayed there for 18 months. In January, 1960, I was in such a bad condition that I hardly knew day from night. The doctors said I had cancer in my blood and that my blood was almost gone. The fluid in my body was gone, two discs in my back were gone; I couldn't last more than 2 or 3 weeks at the most.

But the weeks passed by and I kept on living. In July, I began to get better. I went back to the hospital in August for more tests, and the blood test and X rays both came out negative. The cancer was gone from my blood. I knew God had healed me with His wonderful healing power. That was over 4 months ago, and now I am doing my housework again and waiting on my family.

I want to tell everyone what God has done for me. He is still performing miracles today. Believe me, I know He performed one in my life. I want God to have the praise and glory for what has been done for me. I thank everyone who prayed for me and encouraged me to hold on to God in my darkest

hours. I hope this testimony will be a blessing to those who read it and will cause them to trust God more than ever. God's blessings rest upon everyone who reads this is my prayer. —*Mary Tyner*

Mother's Prayer Answered

PLANT CITY, Fla.—A few months ago my baby was very sick with the flu. We put him in the hospital, but after being there almost a week his condition had only slightly improved. I prayed and the Lord heard. The next day the doctor said he was much better and released him from the hospital. I praise God for this. I promised the Lord I would write my testimony to the *Evangel*. I hope it helps to build someone's faith in Christ. —*Mrs. Margaret Glass*

Child Healed From Bee Stings

CRANDON, Wisc.—I feel led of the Lord to send you this testimony.

One morning my boy had gone out to pick blueberries. While he was gone, I felt an awful burden and began to pray. I was still praying about an hour later when he came in. His face and head were swollen out of proportion from bee stings. He threw himself on the couch and said, "Oh, Mom, pray for me!"

I got down on my knees and really got in touch with God. Next, he threw himself in bed and covered himself from head to toe. I had to take off his shoes and coat because he was so weak and limp. He said, "Pray again." I did. I decided not to get the doctor as long as he had such faith. He had a severe chill and fever and began to vomit, but I still prayed.

Some of my well-meaning friends came by and told me that their daughter had almost died from a bee sting. I still felt peaceful, but I told someone to go and get the doctor. The doctor was out of town. I realized that the only thing to do was to trust God. As soon as the people left, I put my head against the wall and prayed again.

In half an hour the fever broke and the swelling went down. My hardest trial came when his tongue began to swell. I believed God and prayed again. I told God how I stood on His Word. The swelling had to go. After this, he broke out with welts and itching on his feet and hands. God had wondrously healed him.

Our pastor came by and said he believed the Lord counteracted the poison. I believe it, too, and I know this is a special testimony for His name's sake.—*Mrs. Jean Littleton*

Praises God for Pentecost

SWEETWATER, Tenn.—I was converted when I was young, but I strayed. I knew nothing whatsoever about Pentecost. Some friends gave me an *Evangel* and I read about those marvelous healings. I wondered in my heart if they could really be true. I prayed, "Lord, if that's really so, heal my little girl." She was 12 years of age and had been afflicted all her life with a condition which grew steadily worse, instead of better. God completely healed her. That has been years ago. She is 25 now, married and the mother of 2 sons. She is still healed.

The same wonderful God who healed my child gave me the Holy Ghost 5 years ago. I was a member of another church, but a Church of God lady, a fellow worker, persuaded me to go with her to a revival at her church. I got hungry for this experience. I knew very little about it, but I began seeking God earnestly.

One morning about 2 o'clock while I was home alone, God gave me a beautiful vision. I saw the snowy white heavenly dove descending. It seemed that a curtain closed this from my sight, and I saw a stack of beautiful white shining robes, embroidered with a heavenly light shining upon them. The curtain came again and closed this off and there in front of me was a silver, 2-handled censer filled with living fire. I could smell smoke burning in the room at the same time. This disappeared within me and a wonderful Presence began to speak in a language I did not understand. I had received the Holy Ghost.

I hope this testimony will be a blessing to somebody. I praise God for Pentecost. —*Thelma Longmire*

Lord Heals Ear

RICHMOND, Ky.—I must thank the Lord for richly blessing me and for healing my ear. My ear had given me much trouble. My mother and I prayed and the Lord healed me and let me sleep.

I thank Him for answering prayer and for the good family I have. —*Judy Denham*

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